

1                   10.     (Amended) [The] A method of [claim 1,] visually quantifying an  
2 amount of an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair  
3 (sbp member), comprising:

4                   providing a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises  
5 in series, a sample receiving zone, a labeling zone, and one or more serially oriented capture  
6 zones, wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp member that  
7 is complementary to or analogous to the analyte, and each of the one or more capture zones  
8 comprises at least a second sbp member immobilized in the capture zone, the second sbp  
9 member being complementary to the analyte;

10                  contacting the sample with the sample receiving zone, whereby the sample  
11 flows along the flow path;

12                  observing a pattern of label that accumulates at the one or more capture zones;

13                  and

14                  correlating a pattern of label accumulated in the one or more capture zones to  
15 the amount of analyte in the sample;

16                  wherein the second sbp member is an antibody against a complex formed  
17 between the analyte and the first sbp member.

1                   15.     (Amended) [The] A method of [claim 1,] visually quantifying an  
2 amount of an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair  
3 (sbp member), comprising:

4                   providing a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises  
5 in series, a sample receiving zone, a labeling zone, and one or more serially oriented capture  
6 zones, wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp member that  
7 is complementary to or analogous to the analyte, and each of the one or more capture zones  
8 comprises at least a second sbp member immobilized in the capture zone, the second sbp  
9 member being complementary to the analyte;

10                  contacting the sample with the sample receiving zone, whereby the sample  
11 flows along the flow path;

12                  observing a pattern of label that accumulates at the one or more capture zones;

13                  and

14 correlating a pattern of label accumulated in the one or more capture zones to  
15 the amount of analyte in the sample;

16 wherein the sample receiving zone comprises an amount of a third sbp member  
17 immobilized within the sample receiving zone and complementary to the analyte, the amount  
18 being sufficient to bind a threshold level of the analyte.

1 23. (Amended) [The] A method of [claim 18,] determining an amount of  
2 an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp  
3 member), comprising:

4 providing a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises  
5 in series, a sample receiving zone, a labeling zone, and one or more serially oriented capture  
6 zones, wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp member that  
7 is complementary to the analyte, and each of the one or more capture zones comprises at least a  
8 second sbp member immobilized in the capture zone, the second sbp member being analogous  
9 to the analyte;

10 contacting the sample with the sample receiving zone, whereby the sample  
11 flows along the flow path;

12 observing a pattern of labeled first sbp member that accumulates at the one or  
13 more capture zones; and

14 correlating a pattern of label accumulated in the one or more capture zones to  
15 the amount of analyte in the sample;

16 wherein the labeled first sbp member includes a visually detectable label;

17 wherein the sample receiving zone comprises an amount of a third sbp member  
18 immobilized within the sample receiving zone and complementary to the analyte, the amount  
19 being sufficient to bind a threshold level of the analyte.

1 In claim 53, lines 9-10, after the words "complementary to", delete the words  
2 "or analogous to".

1 In claims 56-57, change the claim dependencies from "claim 55" to --  
2 claim 53--.

1 In claim 58, change the dependency from "claim 59" to --claim 57--.

1 In claims 59-61, change the dependencies from "claim 55" to --claim 53--.

1 62. (Amended) [The] A device [of claim 55,] for determining an amount of  
2 an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp  
3 member), comprising a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises in  
4 series:

5 a sample receiving zone;

6 a labeling zone; and

7 one or more serially oriented capture zones;

8 wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp  
9 member that is complementary to or analogous to the analyte, and each of the one or more  
10 capture zones comprises at least a second sbp member immobilized in the capture zone, the  
11 second sbp member being complementary to the analyte;

12 wherein the second sbp member is an antibody against a complex formed between the analyte  
13 and the first sbp member.

1 In claim 63, change the dependency from "claim 55" to --claim 53--.

1 In claim 65, change the dependency from "claim 55" to --claim 53--.

1 In claim 66, change the dependency from "claim 67" to --claim 65--.

1 In claims 67-68 and 70, change the claim dependencies from "claim 55" to --  
2 claim 53--.

1 69. (Amended) [The] A device [of claim 55,] for determining an amount of  
2 an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp  
3 member), comprising a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises in  
4 series:

5 a sample receiving zone;

6 a labeling zone; and

one or more serially oriented capture zones;

wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp member that is complementary to or analogous to the analyte, and each of the one or more capture zones comprises at least a second sbp member immobilized in the capture zone, the second sbp member being complementary to the analyte;  
wherein the sample receiving zone comprises an amount of a third sbp member immobilized within the sample receiving zone and complementary to the analyte, the amount being sufficient to bind a threshold level of the analyte.

In claim 71, change the dependency from "claim 72" to --claim 70--.

In claims 73 and 74, change the claim dependencies from "claim 74" to --claim 72--.

In claim 75, change the claim dependency from "claim 76" to --claim 74--.

In claims 76-78, and 80, change the claim dependencies from "claim 74" to --claim 72--.

79. (Amended) [The] A device [of claim 74,] for determining an amount of an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp member), the device comprising a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises in series:

a sample receiving zone;

a labeling zone; and

one or more serially oriented capture zones;

wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp member that is complementary to the analyte, and each of the one or more capture zones comprises at least a second sbp member immobilized in the capture zone, the second sbp member being analogous to the analyte;

wherein the sample receiving zone comprises an amount of a third sbp member immobilized within the sample receiving zone and complementary to the analyte, the amount being sufficient to bind a threshold level of the analyte.

In claim 81, change the claim dependency from "claim 82" to --claim 80--.

120. (Amended) A kit for determining an amount of an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp member), the kit comprising the device of [any one of] claim[s 55,] 53 [74, 84, 98 or 110], a chart for correlating an observed accumulation of label at the one or more capture zones, to a concentration of analyte in a sample applied to the sample receiving zone, and instructions for using the device.

Please add new claims 121-125 as follows:

--121. (New) A kit for determining an amount of an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp member), the kit comprising the device of claim 74, a chart for correlating an observed accumulation of label at the one or more capture zones, to a concentration of analyte in a sample applied to the sample receiving zone, and instructions for using the device.

122. (New) The device of claim 53, wherein the first sbp member is a ligand and the second sbp member is a receptor complementary to the ligand.--

123. (New) The device of claim 121 wherein the ligand is a hapten and the receptor is a complement to the hapten.

124. (New) A method of visually quantifying an amount of an analyte in a sample, wherein the analyte is a member of a specific binding pair (sbp member), comprising:  
providing a lateral flow matrix which defines a flow path and which comprises in series, a sample receiving zone, a labeling zone, and one or more serially oriented capture zones, wherein the labeling zone comprises a diffusively bound labeled first sbp member that